

The Crucible, Act III by Arthur Miller
Vocabulary Warm-up Exercises

Exercise A *Fill in the blanks, using each word from Word List A only once.*

When she first arrived here from her native India, Ronu was [1] _____—totally confused—by the [2] _____ and grandeur of the holiday decorations at the shopping mall. As a junior reporter for the local newspaper, Ronu carried out [3] _____ and conscientious interviews with some of the merchants at the mall. A few participated only on condition of [4] _____, asking Ronu not to publish their names. From her informants, Ronu discovered that holiday time resulted in a significant [5] _____ of many merchants' normal routine. Merchants told her that special holiday decorations cost them [6] _____ amounts of money. The decorative style for any particular year seemed to be completely [7] _____, following no consistent pattern. "I would commit [8] _____ if I told you that all this is unnecessary," one merchant said, "but it certainly is a big cost for an uncertain result."

Exercise B *Revise each sentence so that the underlined vocabulary word is logical. Be sure to keep the vocabulary word in your revision.*

Example: Paul looked around apprehensively, for he was confident about the team's success.

Paul looked around apprehensively, for he was doubtful about the team's success.

1. The lecture was so clear and easy to understand that it completely befuddled us.

2. The thief was working alone, and his connivance with several conspirators was plain.

3. The pack of hyenas lurks in plain view, and the prey can hardly fail to see them.

4. Thelma accepted the news placidly, breaking into a torrent of tears.

5. We later discovered that the salesperson's plays were full of integrity.

6. If you feel a qualm beforehand, it is perfectly all right to take that action.

7. The remorseless villain felt guilt and regret for his crimes.
